

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/558,836

Examiner

Michael Leslie

Applicant(s)

KAUSS ET AL.

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3745

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to communications filed 11/29/2005.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-10.
3. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☒ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☒ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date 2/2006 & 5/2006
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6. ☒ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____.
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____.

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Ms. Randi Isaacs on February 5, 2007.

The application has been amended as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

A listing of claims 1-10 has been established on the attached sheets reflecting changes made in order to obviate rejections under 35 U.S.C. 112 2nd paragraph.

REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

The instant invention has been deemed to be an unobvious improvement over U.S. Patent 4,782,859 to Constantinian. Constantinian discloses a hydraulic control arrangement having a consumer connection (A, B), a distribution valve (4), a pressure compensator (BAL), a stop valve (57), a pressure limiting and anti-cavitation valve (65), and a pilot valve (63). The unobvious improvement comprising the parallel arrangement of the axes of the stop valve and distribution valve, the pilot valve having an axis arranged perpendicular to the axis of the distribution valve, and the pressure limiting and anti-cavitation valve having an axis arranged perpendicular to the axes of the distribution valve and the pilot valve.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue

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fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

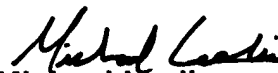
CONCLUSION

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Michael Leslie whose telephone number is (571) 272-4819. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 8:00am - 4:30pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Edward Look can be reached on (571) 272-4820. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

ML
February 9, 2007


Michael Leslie
Patent Examiner
AU 3745

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1. (Currently Amended) A hydraulic control arrangement for the load pressure independent control of a consumer, comprising:

a housing ~~portion, preferably a valve disk~~ portion having a consumer connection, in which a continuously variable distribution valve controlling the a pressure medium flow to the consumer is accommodated, ~~to which distribution valve an individual pressure compensator being is allocated, and comprising~~ allocated to the distribution valve;

~~at least one~~ a stop valve which is arranged in a path of the pressure medium flow path between the distribution valve and the consumer and can be released to permit a pressure medium flow from the ~~corresponding consumer connection,~~ connection; ~~and comprising~~

a pressure limiting and an anti-cavitation valve via which pressure medium can be sucked from the a reservoir in the case of a lacking supply of the consumer, characterized in that the stop valve is controlled by a pilot ~~valve the~~ valve, an axis of which extends perpendicularly ~~to the~~ to an axis of the distribution valve and of the stop valve arranged axially parallel thereto,

wherein the pilot valve can be controlled to be opened mechanically by a ~~slide~~ valve spool of the distribution valve, and ~~that the~~ that an axis of the pressure-limiting and anti-cavitation valve extends perpendicularly to the axes of the distribution valve and the pilot valve.

2. (Currently Amended) ~~[[A]]~~ The hydraulic control arrangement according to claim 1, wherein the control arrangement is accommodated in a valve disk and the distribution valve, the control arrangement includes two consumer connections, two stop valves valves, two pressure-limiting and anti-cavitation valves and two pilot valves valves, the two stop valves and the two

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pilot valves are arranged ~~in the~~ in a disk plane and the two pressure-limiting and anti-cavitation valves are arranged perpendicularly to the disk plane.

3. (Currently Amended) ~~[[A]]~~ [[A]] The hydraulic control arrangement according to ~~claim 1~~ claim 2, wherein ~~the~~ an axis of the individual pressure compensator is arranged perpendicularly to the axis of the distribution valve in the disk plane.

4. (Currently Amended) ~~[[A]]~~ [[A]] The hydraulic control arrangement according to claim 3, wherein the axis of the individual pressure compensator is arranged centrally between the axes of the two pilot valves.

5. (Currently Amended) ~~[[A]]~~ [[A]] The hydraulic control arrangement according to ~~claim 1~~ claim 2, wherein the axis of one of the two pilot valves intersects the axis ~~of the~~ of a corresponding stop valve ~~in the~~ in an area of a spring chamber.

6. (Currently Amended) ~~[[A]]~~ [[A]] The hydraulic control arrangement according to ~~claim 1~~ claim 2, wherein the axis of the two pressure-limiting and anti-cavitation valves is located in the area between a common axis of the two stop valves and the axis of the distribution valve.

7. (Currently Amended) ~~[[A]]~~ [[A]] The hydraulic control arrangement according to claim 1, wherein the ~~slide~~ valve spool includes a control surface via which a tappet extending perpendicularly to the axis of the distribution valve is axially movable for opening the pilot valve.

8. (Currently Amended) ~~[[A]]~~ The hydraulic control arrangement according to claim 7, wherein the tappet is guided in the valve disk.

9. (Currently Amended) ~~[[A]]~~ The hydraulic control arrangement according to claim 2, wherein each of the stop ~~valve~~ valves and the pilot ~~valve~~ valves are accommodated in intersecting bores ending at ~~the~~ side faces of the valve disk.

10. (Currently Amended) ~~[[A]]~~ The hydraulic control arrangement according to ~~claim 1~~ claim 2, wherein at least in ~~the~~ an area of the two pressure-limiting and anti-cavitation ~~valves~~ valves, working passages leading to the two consumer connections are located in a plane of the valve ~~disk~~ disk, which is arranged offset with respect to a plane including reservoir passages.